

# NEWS RELEASE

From the Office of the Indiana Attorney General

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## **Do Not Fax legislation gets Thumbs-up from Attorney General Steve Carter**

Indianapolis – Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter put his support behind a bill heard by a legislative committee today that would prohibit unsolicited advertising faxes. Carter told the House Committee on Technology, Research and Development that the bill would give Hoosiers one more layer of protection from intrusive and often annoying sales tactics.

“I regularly hear from citizens wanting to know how they can stop unwanted faxes that cost them money and disturb the privacy of their home or business during all hours of the day,” Attorney General Steve Carter said. “For years owners of fax machines have been subsidizing advertising campaigns of others who send unwanted sales pitches. The transmittals use the owners’ fax paper, ink and tie up their personal and business phone lines. This legislation can help eliminate this problem by giving the state recourse for meaningful penalties against violators.”

The bill would make transmitting unsolicited fax advertisements a deceptive consumer sale allowing the attorney general’s office to recover civil penalties of up to \$1,500 per violation.

The bill passed out of committee 9-1 and will go to the full House for a vote. If passed, the bill will then proceed to the Indiana State Senate.

“This is a logical step to expanding the privacy rights of our citizens who have the best protections from telemarketers in the country by our Do Not Call law,” Carter added. “I’m committed to finding solutions that place control of the consumer-owned phone and fax back into their hands.”

House Bill 1280 is sponsored by State Representative Michael Murphy (R-Indianapolis).

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